GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Water Resources Department - Rayalaseema Lift Scheme- Work components required for drinking water for Chennai Water Supply and Chronically drought prone areas of Rayalaseema region – Execution on Priority under Phase-I - Approval Accorded- Orders- Issued.

WATER RESOURCES (PROJECTS.III) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No.364 Dated:11.08.2023.

Read the following:

1. G.ORt.No.203, Water Resources (Projects III) Department, Dt 05.05.2020.
2. From Chief Engineer (P), Kurnool Lr.No.CE/KNL/ICD32-TW/293/ 2023 (2172033)/DEE2/ AEE1/RLI/Drinking Water, Dt:09/08/2023

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ORDER:

In the G.O. 1st read above, Government have accorded administrative sanction for Rayalaseema Lift Scheme (RLS) to draw and utilise 3TMC per day from fore shore of Srisailam reservoir at Sangameswaram to drop into SRMC at Km 4 D/s of Pothireddipadu Head Regulator (PHR) at a cost of Rs.3825Crs as part of Rayalaseema Drought Mitigation Project to ensure timely & assured supply of water for drinking purpose in Rayalaseema Region including 15 TMC for Chennai water supply and to serve the contemplated ayacut under Telugu Ganga Project (TGP), Srisailam Right Branch Canal (SRBC) & Galeru Nagari Sujala Shravanthi (GNSS) which is about 9.6 lakh acres.

2. In the reference 2nd read above, the Chief Engineer (P), Kurnool reported that the quantum of water required for various schemes in Rayalaseema region through PHR from foreshore of Srisailam Reservoir is 101 TMC viz. Chennai Water Supply:15TMC, Telugu Ganga Project (T.G.P.): 29 TMC, Srisailam Right Branch Canal (S.R.B.C.): 19TMC, Galeru Nagari Sujala Shravanthi (G.N.S.S.) :38 TMC.

3. The Chief Engineer(P), Kurnool further reported that, as per interstate agreement entered in the year 1976/77 between the erstwhile state of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, 15 TMC of water is to be drawn from Srisailam reservoir during July to October for Chennai water supply and further it is agreed in the year 1983 vide bilateral agreement that, it is the responsibility of Andhra Pradesh to deliver 12 TMC of water i.e; 8 TMC during July to October and 4 TMC during January to April at Tamil Nadu border.

4. The advisory committee of CWC in its 58thmeeting communicated approval vide Lr.no.16/27/94-PA(N) Dt:04.07.1994 to take up Srisailam Right Branch Canal with the return flow of 11 TMC allocated by Bachawat Tribunal and 8 TMC by way of savings due to modernization of K.C. Canal System.

5. A.P. Re-organization Act – 2014 vide Schedule XI , Para 10 mandated to complete the ongoing projects namely Telugu Ganga and Galeru Nagari Sujala Shravanthi planned for utilization of 29TMC and 38TMC of flood waters, respectively.

6. The Chief Engineer (P), Kurnool further reported that, the water by gravity through Pothireddypadu can only be drawn to its designed capacity when the water level in the Srisailam Reservoir is +880ft and above although the sill level of PHR is +841 ft. The flood days available at Srisailam are diminishing year after year making it impossible to draw allocated waters by Andhra Pradesh within the short period and even the barest minimum requirements to meet Chennai water supply and drinking water needs of Rayalaseema region.

7. The Chief Engineer (P), Kurnool reported that, indiscriminate usage of water by the upper riparian states and unilateral usage of water for power generation and other needs by the neighbouring state from a level below +800 ft, is not allowing to impound the reservoir to the required level to draw water by gravity even for the drinking purpose against its allocations by the lower riparian state of AP.

8. In this context, the GoAP vide reference 1st read above, accorded administrative approval to take up the work of RLS to supplement 3 TMC of water per day duly lifting from a level of +800ft to drop into SRMC at Km 4 D/s of PHR to meet Chennai water supply and drinking water needs of Rayalaseema region.

9. The Chief Engineer(P), Kurnool further reported that, during execution of the RLS, O.A No.71of 2020 was filed before NGT, South Zonal Council, Chennai against taking up the work without prior Environmental Clearance (EC) and interim orders Dt.20.05.2020 were pronounced to stop the work and constituted a Joint Committee comprising members of Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) of MoEF&CC of Irrigation Project, CPCB regional office, Bangalore, IIT Hyderabad, and a senior officer from KRMB to submit a report. The Committee submitted its report to Hon'ble NGT stating that on prima facie prior EC is not required for RLS as it is proposed to supplement to the schemes which are having approved ECs and no additional water is proposed to be drawn other than allocations and neither additional ayacut nor additional storage is contemplated. The Hon'ble NGT, South Zonal Council, Chennai, on the request of the GoAP modified the orders on 13.7.2020 to allow the work to the extent required for preparing the DPR.

10. The Hon'ble NGT in its judgement Dt.29.10.2020 stated that "prima facie found that there is a component of irrigation envisaged in the project which requires prior EC and without getting prior EC, the Govt of AP is restrained from proceeding with the work"

11. In pursuance of the orders of the Hon'ble NGT, the GoAP have applied for amendment to ECs of existing schemes viz. TGP, SRBC, GNSS duly inserting RLS Head Works in the system, as RLS is not a new project envisaging any new ayacut and as such fresh EC is not required as per existing procedures/guidelines of MoEF&CC. The project proponent has submitted the proposal before Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) and the EAC in its 13th meeting after detailed discussions requested for certain information which was furnished by GoAP. Further EAC in its 14th meeting after elaborate discussions requested for further details which are being updated.

12. As per the Hon'ble NGT directions, as it is leading to delay in obtaining EC from the MoEF&CC for full scope of the scheme as proposed vide reference 1st cited, it is requested by the Chief Engineer(P),Kurnool that there is immediate need to take up the scheme under Phase-I to meet the drinking water requirements of 23.6 TMC (Telugu Ganga Project:2.9 TMC, SRBC:1.9TMC, GNSS:3.8TMC, Chennai water supply:15 TMC as per interstate agreement in the year 1983)

13. The Chennai water supply runs through SRMC, Banakacherla, Velugodu reservoir, Somasila reservoir, Kandaleru reservoir and through Poondi canal to the border of Andhra and Tamil Nadu states, which start in June with water year, by which time the storage in the above system of reservoirs will be generally at dead storage level and as such to facilitate the flow of required discharge in canals, these on line reservoirs need to be impounded to a minimum threshold level with 35.23 TMC of water (i.e. Velugodu Reservoir - 9.5 TMC, Somasila Reservoir-17.33 TMC, Kandaleru Reservoir - 8.4 TMC).

14. The Chief Engineer(P), Kurnool concluded that 35.23 TMC of water is to be stored in the enroute reservoirs to facilitate to supply 15 TMC of water to the Chennai water supply and 8.6 TMC for drinking needs of Rayalaseema region totals to 58.83 TMC (or say59 TMC) which need to be drawn from the Srisailam Reservoir. Accordingly, it is informed that, 6 Nos of pumps of capacity 32 MW with a discharge of 2913 Cusecs each are required to lift 59 TMC during critical period from mid-June to mid-July and requested the Government for according necessary permission to take up the Phase -I of RLS for Drinking water requirements.

15. Government after careful examination of the proposals of Chief Engineer(P), Kurnool hereby accord approval to take up the Rayalaseema Lift Scheme to meet the Chennai water supply and drinking water needs of

Rayalaseema region in the first instance under Phase-I as part of ultimate RLS as approved vide reference 1st read above.

16. The Chief Engineer(P), Kurnool shall take further necessary action accordingly.

17. Copy of this order is available in the **apegazette.cgg.gov.in** website.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

SHASHI BHUSHAN KUMAR
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Chief Engineer (Projects), Kurnool.
Copy to:The Engineer-in-Chief(I), WRD, Vijayawada.
The Director of Works& Account, Vijayawada
The Finance(FMU.WR.II) Department
The PS to Minister(WRD)
The PS to Principal Secretary (WRD)

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER